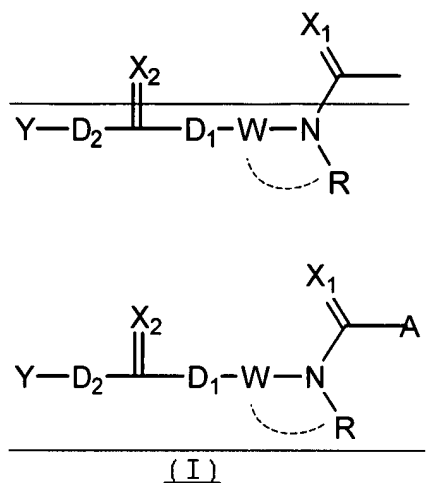


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently Amended)** A prodrug compound having, ~~as a modification group to be eliminated from the prodrug, a group represented by the formula~~formula (I):



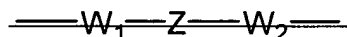
wherein

A is a group remaining from elimination of hydrogen from cimetidine,

X₁ and X₂

are each an oxygen atom ~~or a sulfur atom,~~

W ~~is an ethylene group, a chain divalent hydrocarbon group optionally having substituent(s) or a divalent group represented by the formula:~~



~~wherein W₁ and W₂ are each a chain divalent hydrocarbon group or a bond, Z is a divalent hydrocarbon ring group optionally having substituent(s), a divalent heterocyclic group optionally having substituent(s), an oxygen atom, SO_n wherein n is 0, 1 or 2, or >N-E wherein E is a hydrogen atom, a hydrocarbon group optionally having substituent(s), a heterocyclic group optionally having substituent(s), a lower alkanoyl group, a lower alkoxy carbonyl group, an~~

~~an alkyl oxycarbonyl group, a thiocarbamoyl group, a lower alkylsulfinyl group, a lower alkylsulfonyl group, a sulfamoyl group, a mono-lower alkylsulfamoyl group, a di-lower alkylsulfamoyl group, an arylsulfamoyl group, an arylsulfinyl group, an arylsulfonyl group, an arylcarbonyl group or a carbamoyl group optionally having substituent(s), and when Z is an oxygen atom, SO_n or >N-E, W₁ and W₂ are each a chain-divalent hydrocarbon group,~~

R is a C₁₋₆ alkyl group, hydrogen atom, a hydrocarbon group optionally having substituent(s) or a heterocyclic group optionally having substituent(s), and

R and W

~~_____ may be bonded to each other when R is not a hydrogen atom,~~

D₁ and D₂

~~is are each a bond, an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or >NR₁ wherein R₁ is a hydrogen atom or a hydrocarbon group optionally having substituent(s), except for when both D₁ and D₂ are bonds, and~~

D₂ is a bond or an oxygen atom, and

Y is a C₁₋₆ hydrocarbon group optionally having substituent(s) or a saturated heterocyclic group optionally having substituents(s) which contains, as ring-constituting atom, 1 to 3 heteroatom(s) selected from oxygen atom, nitrogen atom and sulfur atom, or a salt thereof substituent(s).

2-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) ~~(1)~~ A production method of the compound of ~~claim 2,~~ claim 1, which comprises reacting a pharmaceutical compound having an eliminatable proton (H) represented by the formula (III):

H-A (III)

wherein A is a group remaining from elimination of hydrogen from cimetidine,
or a salt thereof with a compound represented by the formula (IV):

$$\text{Y}-\text{D}_2-\overset{\text{X}_2}{\underset{\text{||}}{\text{C}}}-\text{D}_1-\text{W}-\text{N}=\text{C}=\text{X}_1$$

17-19. (Cancelled)